

Budget Update

Macomb County has been working on a plan to reduce the \$20 million budget deficit facing the county. This past winter, a proposal to eliminate funding to Michigan State University programs was considered. We want to thank all of those who demonstrated their support for MSUE by writing letters, calling their commissioners and taking time to speak on behalf of MSUE at Board meetings. These efforts paid off and ultimately, the Board of Commissioners voted to support the continuation of funding for MSUE. However, all county departments through 2008 and 2009 were required to cut operation and personnel cost. Non-mandated services have taken more significant reductions than mandated departments. MSUE and thus 4-H had to reduce clerical and programming staff.

In lieu of the reduction, 4-H Youth Development Staff will be asking for input from volunteers and youth at various Council and Program Committee meetings about setting program priorities, cost/time saving measures and methods to consolidate programs. These are difficult economic times with difficult decisions to be made. In the spirit of 4-H, we can continue to make the best better as we work together with an open heart, hands and mind to enhance the health of our young people and our community.

4-H Teen Leader Training

Cyndi Mark from the State 4-H Staff will be presenting a workshop entitled **Teen Leadership and Service are the "Bombdigitty."** This program will be at the County 4-H Office on Saturday, May 2nd, from 10:30-12:30. Lunch will be provided after the training.

Participants who complete this interactive training will have a deeper understanding of what they can do as a teen leader, come away with leadership and community service activities they can use in their clubs. The training is free to 4-H'ers age 13 and older, but you must register with the 4-H office by Friday, April 24th. The number of participants is limited, so don't wait until the deadline.

King and Queen Contest

Now is the time to nominate someone from your club for King or Queen. By participating in this program, youth gain leadership experience, enhance their communication skills and play an active role in promoting 4-H in the community.

Each club can nominate one boy and one girl from their primary club membership. Candidates should be good representatives of what 4-H stands for, and must meet the following criteria:

Process:

- Must be 4-H age 14-18 and active in 4-H for a minimum of two (2) years.
- Each registered club can nominate one male and one female from their club.
- Must complete King/Queen application form on 4-H County website to be eligible and turn into the Extension office by **2nd Friday in June**.
- Nomination must be turned into the fair office by the **Club Leader** under Department 81 by the fair deadline.
- You are interviewed on your 4-H experience before the fair by a panel of judges.
- Court members are judged on both their interview and application.
- Court members can also receive a maximum of 3 additional points towards their score based on 4-H member's votes. 4-H members each are allowed one vote, dates and times determined by 4-H Superintendent.
- Court members are to be present fair week for scheduled duties such as petting farm, exhibit building, handing out ribbons, and clover sprout judging
- Court members must be willing to represent 4-H throughout the year including participation in local parades and 4-H county activities.
- Must be willing to help with making parade float.
- Record/Scrapbook, project photos, special awards and recognitions are to be displayed in the 4-H Exhibit Building during fair week.

More Information:

For more information contact the 4-H Superintendents or MSUE office at 469-6431.

4-H Exploration Days

It's that time of year when Exploration Days is just around the corner....well maybe a couple of corners, but it's coming up fast. Here's the low down:

To attend the event you must be at least aged 11 by January 1, 2009, or older. Each adult is needed to serve as a session host, activity host, instructor, session helper, or county conference assistant, in addition to the role he or she plays as a volunteer chaperone for a county delegation. There must be at least one chaperone for every 10 youths of the same gender.

The full-time registration fee for 2009 will be \$165. The fee for youth who aren't 4-H members includes an additional \$10 4-H participation fee. The registration fee includes all meals, shared lodging, a T-shirt and sessions. A commuter rate that doesn't include meals or lodging is also available. The Macomb County 4-H Council is providing \$30 scholarships for participants.

Prepayment deposits are fully refundable only until the no charge cancellation deadline of 5 p.m. on May 15, 2009. There is a \$50 cancellation fee for participants who cancel 2 to 30 days before the event. A \$75 no show fee will be incurred by participants who cancel the day before Exploration Days starts or don't show up to the event.

Turn your class choices in early, **before** registration opens, so that you have a better chance at getting the classes you want. The deadline for returning your registration form to the 4-H office will be May 1st. The registration book offers a complete listing of the sessions and details on the current year's event. The choice of which sessions to take is yours to make! The 2009 Exploration Days books are now online at: <http://web1.msue.msu.edu/cyf/youth/expodays.html> or can be requested by calling 586-469-6431.

Armada Fair

August 18-23, 2009

<http://www.armadafair.org>

4-H Theme: "4-H Forever"

See page 7 for Armada Fair updates.

Club & Committee News

4-Hers Celebrate Entrepreneurship and Cheer M.S.U. Lady Spartans to Victory

A green wave was visible across the Michigan State University (MSU) Jack Breslin Student Events Center Jan. 25 when more than 4,000 4-H youth and family members, 4-H volunteers and MSU Extension (MSUE) staff members attended the MSU women's basketball game. This was the fourth year for the 4-H presence at a Lady Spartans basketball game. Total attendance for the game against Wisconsin was nearly 10,500. The high energy of MSUE staff members and 4-H youth helped cheer the team on to a victory over Wisconsin and a continuation of the women's now five-game winning streak. The crowd was the largest this season so far and the seventh largest crowd ever for the Lady Spartans. 4-H volunteers and families came from more than 45 counties to celebrate the success of the 4-H entrepreneurial program. 4-H youth from Northern Macomb 4-H Club led the crowd in singing the national anthem and reciting the 4-H pledge with the help of MSUE director Tom Coon and MSU provost Kim Wilcox.

School Section 4-H Club Members Make Puppets for Mission in Action



Pictured left to right: Alissa Gianferrara (School Section 4-H Club President), Mission in Action representative Jerry Smith, and Blake Muglia (School Section 4-H Club Reporter).

On December 30th, the School Section 4-H Club of Macomb County made sock puppets (crafts) at the United Methodist Church of Armada. We made the puppets for the third world country of Nicaragua. All that were there had a blast learning new things and ideas.

On January 22, 2009, at the United Methodist Church of Armada, 4-H had a guest speaker named Jerry Smith. Jerry is from a team called Mission in Action that goes to third-world countries and gives kids and adults medications. He is also part of a local Lutheran church which helps the group.

Our group participated by making sock puppets for his team to take down to the kids getting the vaccines. The puppets are the only toys these children receive throughout the year.

Mission in Action also gives them other items such as eyeglasses, and fruits and vegetables to take to their home or village. "Each day we get about 200-300 kids," said Jerry Smith. There is a lot of care and responsibility for the volunteers of Mission in Action. This group also provides dentists, nurses, and eye doctors to help kids in need. This February, Mission in Action is going to Nicaragua to help the kids and their families.

*Submitted by Blake Muglia, Club Reporter
School Section 4-H Club*

4-H has been supporting Michigan's economic growth by teaching youth how to be tomorrow's entrepreneurs, and many county 4-H Millionaires Clubs and youth businesses had products on display during the game. T-shirts were specially designed for club members, and some groups -- such as Uniquely Yours, the Macomb County 4-H Future Entrepreneurs Club -- made over \$100 in sales. They brought a large quantity of their custom-made pin-on buttons and magnets and sold 60. They also took orders for a wallet prototype made out of duct tape," said MSUE career and entrepreneurship education coordinator Laura Allen.

4-H youth Brianna Bloxsom, of Macomb County and the Uniquely Yours group, was not only excited to be at the MSU women's basketball game but eager to show off and utilize her business skills. "This was an excellent opportunity for our company," Bloxsom said. "We were able to sell our buttons and also pass out business cards, which helped us to get the word out about our company."

Lady Spartan Fans Unite!



Pictured with Sparty are Breana Knust, Gillian Senyk, Tessie Senyk, Evan Senyk, Anna Rode, Josh Long, Christine Bingham, and Kara Lotan.

Members of Northern Macomb 4-H Club attended the Michigan State University Women's basketball game vs. Wisconsin on January 21. Northern Macomb 4-H Club members were back up singers for the National Anthem before the start of the game and recited the 4-H pledge during a time out near the end of the first period. The Lady Spartans won 59-50.

*Photo and details submitted by Denise Lotan, General Leader
Northern Macomb 4-H Club*

Club & Committee News (cont.)

2008 Mentor Recognition and County Awards Participants and Winners

Congratulations to all the leaders and youth who were recognized at the 2008 Mentor & County Awards Banquet on January 15, 2009. Thank you to all the volunteers that helped make this year's banquet a success. Below is a list of all the participants. An asterisk (*) indicates a trophy winner.

Mentor Recognition:

4-H Youth Mentor Program

Mentor: Paul Allmacher	Mentee: Gene
Mentor: Lakeisha Blackwell	Mentee: Gabby
Mentor: Emily Calabrese	Mentee: Katelynn
Mentor: Paul Christensen	Mentee: Brad
Mentor: Carl Etue	Mentee: Jordan
Mentor: Wanda Gilbert	Mentee: Carrie
Mentor: Jaime Lucente	Mentee: Christina
Mentor: Rebecca Mertz	Mentee: Anna
Mentor: Valarii Nunn	Mentee: Norman
Mentor: Sarah Oldakowski	Mentee: Gabrielle
Mentor: Kelly Pruitt	Mentee: Gabrielle
Mentor: Teresa Scalise	Mentee: Diana
Mentor: Byron Simmons	Mentee: Zach, Mitch, & Jeremy
Mentor: Kevin Watson	Mentee: Tyler

4-H Leadership Group Lincoln High Mentors:

Neelam Bhatt, Lizeth Carpio-Estrada, Dina Kosho, Lena Kosho, David Ksar, Becky Martin, Stephanie Pakulak, Ashley Pierce, Sherron Pierce, Daliya Sadiq, Diyanna Sadiq, Katelyn Smith, Brian Webb

4-H Meant to Mentor L'Anse Creuse North Mentors:

Kaitlynn Bartlebaugh, Courtney Basone, Ashleigh Boone, Scott Gish, Tyrell Hunt, Stephanie Knupp, Dominic Kosal, Ryan Lech, Kim Mao, Krista McCullough, Nicole Miesel, Christie Mitchell, Kayla Newport, Lauren Nickels, Chelsea Niemi, Megan Price, Taylor Schwartz, Jessica Shaffer, Holly Smith, Christopher Watts, Kyle Watts, Emily Whitehouse, Led by volunteer Jim Julian

Macomb Community College Mentors:

Yunhua Ding, Dihua Guan, Angela Kerner, Victoria Loose, Amanda Navarro, Aaron Ploetz

4-H Henry Ford High School II Mentors:

Jessica Case, Marla Hellings, Nicole Jablonski, Olivia Koselansky, Phil Kulha, Catherine Rudik

Project Awards - Junior Division

Archery: *Jimmy Maas-(Huron Pointe Coyote)

Dogs: Brittany Bergstrom (K-9 & Kompany)
*Heather Kitchen-(Northern Macomb)

Horses-Draft: *Justin Decker (Just for Fun)

Horses-Mini: *Ryan Cerku (Midnight Riders)
Audrey Davis (Mini, Might & All)

Photography: *Haley Waterstraat (Clever Clovers)

Pigs: *Chris Wesolowski (Clever Clovers)

Poultry: *April Wesolowski (Clever Clovers)

Rabbit: Heather Kitchen (Northern Macomb)
*Carlynn Mass (K-9 & Kompany)
Alexandria Pinskey (School Section)

Shooting Sports: *Ryan Cerku (Midnight Riders)

Project Awards - Senior Division

Arts & Crafts: *Kaitlyn Clough (Clever Clovers)

Community Service: Bri Bloxsom (K-9 & Kompany)
*Brianna Wilkinson (K-9 & Kompany)

Dairy Goats: *Crystal Knust (Northern Macomb)

Horse: *Elizabeth Brockert (Romeo Rough Riders)

Horse-Mini: Daniel Cooper (Mini, Mighty, & All)

Horse Judging: *Ashley Cerku (Midnight Riders)

Rabbit: *Bri Bloxsom (K-9 & Kompany)

Teen Mentoring: *Brian Webb (4-H Leadership Group)

Special Awards

Achievement: *Kara Lotan (Northern Macomb)

Ambassador Award: *Crystal Knust (Ambassador Club)

Leadership: Kara Lotan (Northern Macomb)
*Cole Waterstraat (Clever Clovers)

Key Club: *Christopher Cooper (Mini, Mighty and All)
Melissa Wesolowski (Clever Clovers)

4-H Sportsmanship: *Jacob Gregory (Clever Clovers)

Friend of 4-H Awards:

Armada Agricultural Society Fair Board
Huron Pointe-Sportsman Association
St. Thomas Lutheran Church
Wolcott Farm Learning Center Farm Staff

**All were awarded for their contributions to 4-H*

4-H Leader of the Year: *Alayne Waterstraat (Clever Clovers)
Janet Weber (Mini, Mighty, & All)

4-H Mentor of the Year: *Byron Simmons



County Awards Judging Committee

Lynda Brockert (Northern Macomb)

Faye Cerku (Midnite Riders)

Michaelyn Crawford (Team Extreme)

Nancy Duemling (K-9 & Kompany)

Patricia Fons (Pirates)

Mary Grettenberger (School Section)

Connie Houin (Ray's Riding Rascals)

Don VanDeWater (Ray Community)

Alayne Waterstraat (Clever Clovers)

Upcoming Events

2009 4-H Dairy Conference

If you'd like to know more about the dairy industry, sign up for this conference at Kettunen Center on April 17-19. You'll learn about dairy management topics including dairy cattle nutrition, health, reproduction, and cattle evaluation. Practice for state dairy management contests such as the skillathon and quiz bowls that focus on dairy cattle health. You'll also tour area farms. Open to youth aged 13-19. The cost is \$75 per person. Register at MSU Extension by April 3.

4-H Shooting Sports Instructor Training

This training, on April 24-25 at Kettunen Center, offers a variety of sessions including riflery, shotgun, archery, hunting and wildlife. Completing the course does NOT guarantee that participants will be certified; they must demonstrate proficiency on written and range assessments at the workshop, then complete paperwork (including approval by county staff) before obtaining certification. Join us and see all that the 4-H shooting sports program has to offer! Shooting sports instructors seeking recertification in a discipline should fill out a recertification application. You do NOT need to retake the training unless you've been inactive for more than 3 years. Open to new and veteran adult volunteers and youth aged 16 and up. Call Tina Fleming at 586-469-6431 or e-mail fleming82@msu.edu for more information.

4-H Rabbit & Cavy Workshop

Get new ideas and information about the rabbit and cavy project areas at the 4-H Rabbit & Cavy Workshop at Kettunen Center on April 4th and 5th! You'll choose from a variety of learning opportunities including management, health, nutrition, breeding, animal evaluation and fun 4-H club programs. You'll have the chance to exchange ideas, make new friends and explore new areas with other individuals who are just as excited about rabbits and cavy as you are! You'll be encouraged to develop plans for sharing your learning experiences in your county. Open to adults and teens aged 13 and up. The cost for this program will be announced. Register at the MSU Extension office. Call 586-469-6431 or e-mail Macomb.4h@macombcountymi.gov for details.

Vet-A-Visit

Vetavisit 2009, the MSU College of Veterinary Medicine's annual open house, will be held on Saturday, April 18, 2009 from 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. Admission is free-of-charge. Most exhibits and displays are age-appropriate for children 6 years of age and older. Wear comfortable walking shoes.

Guests coming to Vet-A-Visit will be able to park and walk from the parking lots on Service Drive. Limited shuttle buses will be available between 10a.m. and 2 p.m. to move guests from the south parking lots to the Bogue St. entrance of the Large Animal Clinic. Additional information is available online at <http://cvm.msu.edu/vetavisit>.

State 4-H Rabbit & Cavy Expo

The State 4-H Rabbit & Cavy Expo will be held at Anthony Hall on the campus of Michigan State University on Saturday, June 13, 2009. Events will include Quiz Bowl, Skillathon, Rabbit Showmanship, Cavy Showmanship, Virtual Breed ID, Quiz Contest, Virtual Cavy Breed Judging, Craft, Virtual Rabbit Breed Judging, and Educational Poster. Individual and team events are for Junior (9-13) and Senior (14-19) levels. The cost is \$5 per individual and \$3 per event. the catalog and flyer for the 2009 4-H Rabbit and Cavy Expo is now accessible online at <http://web1.msue.msu.edu/cyf/youth/aniscipr.html#Rabbits>. All registration forms are due to the county MSU Extension Office by May 8, 2009.

4-H Environment & Outdoor Education Workshop

The 4-H Environment & Outdoor Education Workshop will be held March 21-22, 2009 at Kettunen Center in Tustin, MI. Participants will gain ideas, project resources and ideas for activities that will help kids enjoy the outdoors and care for the environment. Sample a variety of interest areas within the 4-H environmental and outdoor education program. Sessions will feature wildlife, environmental stewardship, renewable energy, fisheries, outdoor recreation and leadership, forensic entomology, nature photography, and GPS (global positioning satellite systems). Open to adults and youth aged 13 and up. Persons ages 13 and older are welcome to attend. The cost is \$38 per person. Register with the MSU Extension office by March 6, 2009. Call 586-469-6431 for more information.

4-H Great Lakes & Natural Resources Camp

4-H Great Lakes & Natural Resources Camp is August 2-8, 2009 at Camp Chickagami in Presque Isle. 4-H Great Lakes & Natural Resources Camp is an annual MSU pre-college program that provides teens from across the state the opportunity to:

- Improve their knowledge about Great Lakes and natural resources ecology and management issues. Increase awareness of environmental problems, foster environmental stewardship and enhance involvement in local natural resources projects.
- Increase interest in the outdoors, develop leadership skills and self-confidence and influence career decisions.
- Enjoy quality camp activities, gain hands-on science experiences, meet new people and develop friendships.
- Learn from natural resources and youth development experts and develop possible career interests.

This camp is designed for Michigan teens who will be ages 13 to 15 on July 1. You do not need to be a 4-H member to attend. You'll learn about natural resources and management issues, especially those related to the aquatic environment and the Great Lakes. The cost for 4-H members is \$335. Non-members pay \$345. Register by May 1. Counselors ages 16 + attend free of charge but must apply by March 13. Go online to <http://web1.msue.msu.edu/cyf/youth/glnrc.html> for applications and more information.

Upcoming Events



MSU Hairy Horse Show

"It's OK to bring that hairy horse"
MSU Pavilion Sunday, March 29th
7 a.m. Registration begins
8:30 a.m. Show begins

\$35 per
stall

- Show open to any breed of horse
- No stallions allowed at this event.
- A/HA classes open to Arabian & Half-Arab only
- ASTM/SEI approved helmet required in all youth Hunt Seat classes (19 & under)
- Negative Coggins for 2009 required.
- UPHA show participants on (3/28 in S. Barn) call for stalling discount information.

No refunds after March 15th. Call 517-353-1748 or e-mail tenlenta@msu.edu for more information.

Horse-related Bulletins Available

The following horse-related bulletins are available through MSU Extension:

- E-3059 Ornamental Plants Toxic to Michigan Horses (\$1.00 plus tax)
- E-3060 Toxic Plants of Concern in Pastures and Hay for Michigan Horses (\$2.50 plus tax)
- E-3061 Common Toxins in Equine Feedstuffs (\$2.00 plus tax)
- E-3062 Michigan Trees Toxic to Horses, Donkeys and Mules (\$2.00 plus tax)

Full color pictures, 2-5 pages long

Call (586) 469-5180 for more information.



Project F.I.S.H.

Dates & Location: March 10 to 11, 2009, from 9:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. both days at Michigan State University

What: Project FISH is a mentor-based sportfishing and aquatic resource education program. If you're interested in becoming one of the "Friends Involved in Sportfishing Heritage (FISH)," you don't need to know how to fish. Just register for this or other Project FISH workshops offered around Michigan.



Open to: Adult volunteers and teachers ages 19 and up.

Cost: \$55 Registration Fee

Registration deadline: March 5, 2009

Find out more at: Contact Mark Stephens at 517-432-2700 or visit <http://www.projectfish.org/anrweek.pdf>

Pet Treats on Sale

The 4-H Finance Subcommittee of the Council is happy to report we are now in the profit zone for the pet treat sales due to the support of all that purchased them at various functions. The committee has reduced the price of the treats to \$3 per bag or two for \$5. Limited quantities are available at this reduced price. Stop by or call the extension office if you're interested in purchasing cat, dog, or horse pet treats. The monies raised from this fundraising will be used to help support bus transportation for big 4-H events and /or additional scholarship funds for volunteers who chaperone at events.

New Volunteer Orientation

The dates for 4-H New Volunteer Orientation have been announced. They are:

March 18, 2009 6:15 p.m. MSU Extension Office
April 7, 2009 6:15 p.m. MSU Extension Office

Adults working with 4-H youth are required to have this training. If you have questions or would like to sign up for either of these sessions, contact Tina Fleming at (586) 469-6431 or e-mail flemin82@msu.edu.

4-H Spring Fling

March 28, 2009
M.S.U. Plant and Soil Sciences Building
(located across from the Wharton Center)
9 a.m. – 2:30 p.m.

Welcome and Key Note Speaker - Room A149
Dr. Randy Beaudry Acting Horticulture Department Chair and scientist will delight you with his humor and knowledge with his presentation:
"The Tempting Apple: Aroma and Evolution in Eden"

Kids - Growing and Going the 4-H way. Games and more for kids 5-11. Many fun classes to choose from you can pick three for a \$6.00 registration:

- Crops for Kids
- Buzz on Biz
- Pieces and Parts New Plant Starts
- Story Time with Jessica
- Bees - What's all the Buzz About
- Good Bugs/Bad Bugs
- Garden Scarecrows (extra fee)
- Fancy Fruits (extra fee)
- Floral Design (extra fee)
- Bug Basics
- Research at MSU - What's new?
- Cooking from the Garden

4-H members and non 4-H friends are invited to the Spring Fling Horticulture & Entomology Workshop. Contact the MSU Extension office for information.

Telephone: (586) 469-6431
E-mail: Macomb.4h@macombcountymi.gov

Notes from the 4-H Office

2009 Foreign Exchange Opportunities

Belize 4-H Exchange

Inbound: Host families are needed for 6-8 participants (mid-June to mid-July). Participants will attend Exploration Days before going to host families. Outbound: Participants will spend more than one week with host families and help out at a 4-H center in Belize, as well as several days of sightseeing. This is not a tourist-type trip but will be a chance to experience the true culture of a developing country. Cost: Approximately \$1,500–\$1,600.

Inbound Poland 4-H Exchange

Host families are needed for a month long stay from June 23 to July 22, 2009. Participants, ages 15-19, will attend Exploration Days before going to host families to learn about the American culture and improve their English language skills. They will be accompanied by chaperons who will also need host families. Outbound Exchange to Poland will be in 2010. Coordinator: Bethany Prykucki, 989-731-0272.

Japanese 4-H Exchanges

Michigan will participate in three different exchange programs with Japan. Families who host a month-long Japanese student will receive a \$100 scholarship each summer they host and can use up to \$350 (maximum) of that scholarship money toward sending a member of their family to Japan on the outbound program. Incoming Japanese Exchange: Michigan 4-H will host 60 Japanese youth, ages 12-16, from approximately July 24 to August 2, 2009. Coordinator: Larry Johnson, johns153@msu.edu.

Outgoing Japanese 4-H Exchange (July 8 to August 6, 2009): For youth ages 12-19. Participants must attend the Exploration Days, Japanese Language and Culture session. Cost is approximately \$4000.00. Coordinator: Vera Wiltse, wiltsev@msu.edu. Outgoing 8-Week Japanese Program – June 11 to August 18, 2009: Offered by the Labo Japanese Language Research Institute. Participants live with host families in the Tokyo area and attend classes at the Labo Center. The program precedes the outbound dates so delegates can combine the two programs. A chaperone accompanies the young people and stays for the outbound, month-long stay. The delegates are usually placed in another part of Japan for the month-long program. Cost: approx. \$5000.00. Coordinator: Vera Wiltse, wiltsev@msu.edu.

Inbound Year-Long Hosting Program- FLEX (August 2009 to mid-June 2010)

Michigan plans to host nine year-long FLEX high school students. Participants are juniors or seniors in high school from Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Georgia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Moldova, Russia, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan and Ukraine. Coordinator: Renée Applegate, applega1@msu.edu or at 517-432-7624.

Outbound and Inbound IFYE Ambassadors

There are month-long (mid June to mid July) Ambassador 4-H Trips for 15- to 19-year-olds to Australia, Finland and Costa Rica. Chaperones are also needed. Check the State 4-H Website for more information. **Host families needed** for inbound Costa Rican program (mid-June to mid-July). Coordinator: Renée Applegate, applega1@msu.edu or at 517-432-7624.

IFYE Representative Program

For 19-25 year olds. Outbound participants live with several families over a 3-6 month stay. Hosts needed for inbound participants for month-long stays during the summer. Coordinator: Renée Applegate at applega1@msu.edu or 517-432-7624.

Build Wealth with AmericaSaves.org

All over America, youths and adults are showing that you don't have to be rich to build wealth. As members of America Saves, they are paying off their debts, and saving to reach their financial goals. Americasaves.org can help, with tips and tools to help you set goals, develop strategies to reach those goals, and start saving. Check out the Americasaves.org website and start making your dreams a reality. Below you will find a few strategies from the website to help you start saving for a better tomorrow.

- Save your loose change. Putting aside fifty cents a day over the course of a year will allow you to save almost \$200.
- Keep track of your spending. At least once a month, use credit card, checking, and other records to review what you've purchased. Then, ask yourself if it makes sense to reallocate some of this spending to an emergency savings account.
- Never purchase expensive items on impulse. Think over each expensive purchase for at least 24 hours. Acting on this principle will mean you have far fewer regrets about impulse purchases, and far more money for emergency savings.
- Use debit and credit cards prudently. To minimize interest charges, try to limit credit card purchases to those you can pay off in full at the end of the month.
- Borrow books rather than purchasing them. Borrowing books and reading magazines at your local library, rather than purchasing reading material, can save you hundreds of dollars a year.
- Research free or inexpensive entertainment in your community. Use local newspapers and websites to learn about free or low-cost parks, museums, film showings, sports events, and other places which you and your family would enjoy.
- Communicate by e-mail rather than by phone. If you're on-line, e-mail communications are virtually free.
- When driving, avoid fast start-ups and stops. Over time, you will save hundreds of dollars on lower gas and maintenance Costs.
- Plan gift-giving well in advance. That will give you time to decide on the most thoughtful gifts, which usually are not the most expensive ones. And if these gifts are products that must be purchased, you will have the opportunity to look for sales



Money Smart Week
April 18-25, 2009

Discover more ways to save money
at <http://www.moneysmartweek.org>.

Notes from the 4-H Office

2009 4-H Fair Superintendents

Dept. 2	Dairy Cattle	Mark Falker	586-752-2487
Dept. 4	Beef Cattle	Carl Myer Ray Kuschel	810-392-3177 586-784-8655
Dept. 6	Sheep	Marie Marcath Gina Riebel	586-949-7538 586-784-8255
Dept. 8	Goats	Jean Bingham	586-784-5021
Dept. 10	Swine	Earl Proctor Marie Marcath	586-784-5054 586-949-7538
Dept. 16	Saddle Horses	Mike DeFour	586-739-6115
Dept. 18	Draft Horses	Patricia Fons	586-784-8769
Dept. 28	Mini Horses	Bob Decker	313-320-7505
Dept. 12	Poultry	Penny Tibbits	586-784-9908
Dept. 14	Rabbits	Kathy Matthews	586-749-3165
Dept. 22	Dogs/Cats	Jim Jerse	586-749-3770
Dept. 30	Pocket Pets	Kathy Matthews	586-749-3165
Dept. 70	Needlework (Creative Stitchery)	Patricia Fons Marilyn Bohm	586-784-8769 586-749-3746
Dept. 71	Culinary Arts (Food Preparation)	Jean Bingham Val Cusumano	586-784-5021 586-727-8384
Dept. 72	Fine Arts (Artists)	Marilyn Bohm	586-749-3746
Dept. 73	Folk Arts (Creative Arts)	Mary Grettenberger Rose Gianferrara Sharon Knust	586-784-3072 586-784-8024 586-784-8537
Dept. 74	Photography	Connie Houin	313-882-9591
Dept. 76	Agriculture (Grains & Herbs)	Sue Archambault	586-201-6884
Dept. 77	Floriculture	Sue Archambault	586-201-6884
Dept. 78	Horticulture	Sue Archambault	586-201-6884
Dept. 79	Sciences (Industrial Arts)	Herman Houin	313-882-9591
Dept. 80	Natural Resources	Bette Nebel	586-468-7112
Dept. 81	Organizations (Gen. Ldr. Entries) (King & Queen)	MSU Extension Jenna Lotan Christine Bingham	586-469-6431 586-784-7081 586-784-5021
Dept. 82	Educational Projects Pt. 1 (Veterinary Science)	Penny Tibbits Julie Bergstrom	586-784-9908 586-727-7852
	Educational Projects Pt. 2 (Family, Personal Appearance & Folk Patterns)	Marilyn Bohm Alayne Waterstraat	586-749-3746 586-727-3030
Dept. 83	Demonstrations (Additional Proj.)	Paul Gianferrara	586-784-8024
Dept.	2009 MI State Fair Gold Ribbon	Nancy Davis	586-784-9410
Section A	Club Display (Exhibit Building)	4-H Staff Becky Harris	586-469-4160 586-465-1198
Section B	Grand Best of Show Cloversprouts Teen Clerks	Nancy Davis Jenna Lotan Jessica Makowski	586-784-9410 586-781-7081 586-228-9319

Superintendent Meeting

A Superintendent meeting has been scheduled for Monday, March 9th at the MSU Extension office. Dinner will be served at 6:30 p.m. Topics will include fair updates, the Danish judging system, safety, and a discussion of roles and responsibilities. This is a wonderful opportunity for both 4-H and Fair Board Superintendents to discuss their respective departments and work out details for this years 2009 Armada fair. To ensure enough food and materials are available, please RSVP by Friday, March 5th by calling 586-469-6431.

Fair Updates 2009

There is a significant amount of work that goes into the Armada Fair by the Fair Board and everyone is already hard at work with meetings, attending conferences, working on fair books and putting into place new guidelines from the Michigan Department of Agriculture (MDA). When you see the 4-H fair book this spring, you will see that the department letters have changed to department numbers. Some departments have been combined, some names have changed and new departments have been added. **Look closely at the departments to make sure you have it correct when it's time to fill out registration forms.**

For those clubs who may have members who are not in good standing it is important to let those members know in advance so they can try to get back in good standing before the fair.

We are still in need of Superintendents for fair. One more is needed for Folk Art (Creative Arts), one for Natural Resources, four for the Exhibit Building, one more for Additional Projects, and one more for Photography. If you are interested in becoming a superintendent for any of these areas, please call Tina Fleming at 586-469-6431.

When completing Fair Entry Forms make sure to indicate only your primary club. Even though you share projects with other clubs, only list your primary club on your entry form. It is unnecessary to include your shared project club. It will help with paperwork at the fair office and this way you do not need to pay two entry fees.

Macomb County 4-H Staff

Marilyn Rudzinski, County Extension Director
Kathy Jamieson, 4-H Youth Agent
Tina Fleming, 4-H Youth Educator
Anne Crotser, 4-H Youth Educator
Karen Hakim, 4-H Program Assistant
Roberta Busquaert, 4-H Secretary
Jan Gwozdz, 4-H Mentor Coordinator
Rachel Calcaterra, 4-H Youth Educator
Bee Brown, 4-H Program Assistant
Marcia Bloomfield, 4-H Mentor Prg. Secretary


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Web: <http://macombcountymi.gov/msuextension>

Macomb County 4-H Calendar of Events - March 2009

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8 Freestyle Dancing with Dogs, 2-4 p.m., Top Dog K-9, Shelby Twp.	9 4-H & Fair Board Superintendent Mtg., 6:30 p.m., MSUE	10	11	12	13	14 Companion Animals Carnival, Canine Workshop, Clinton Twp., all day
15	16	17	18 4-H New Volunteer Orientation, 6:15 p.m., MSUE	19	20	21 4-H Envir. & Outdoor Education Workshop, Kettunen Center, March 21-22
22 4-H Envir. & Outdoor Education Workshop Capital Experience, Lansing, March 22-25 Freestyle Dancing with Dogs, 2-4 p.m., Top Dog K-9, Shelby Twp.	23 Horse Program Committee Mtg., 7 p.m., Camp Rotary	24	25	26	27	28 Spring Fling, MSU, 9 a.m.-2:30 p.m.
29 Hairy Horse Show, MSU Pavilion	30	31				

Macomb County 4-H Calendar of Events - April 2009

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
 <p>MSU is an affirmative action, equal opportunity employer. Michigan State University Extension programs and materials are open to all without regard to race, color, national origin, gender, gender identity, religion, age, height, weight, disability, political beliefs, sexual orientation, marital status, family status or veteran status.</p>			1 Enrollment dead- line for new mem- bers who want to show projects at the Armada Fair	2	3	4 4-H Rabbit & Cavy Workshop, Ket- tunen Center
5	6	7 4-H New Volunteer Orientation, 6:15 p.m., MSUE	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17 4-H Dairy Confer- ence, April 17-19, Kettunen Center	18 4-H Dairy Confer- ence, April 17-19, Kettunen Center
19 4-H Dairy Confer- ence, April 17-19, Kettunen Center	20	21	22 Macomb Council 4-H Council & Subcommittee meetings, 6 p.m., MSUE	23	24 4-H Shooting Sports Instructor Training, Kettunen Center	25
26	27 Livestock Sale Subcommittee mtg., 7 p.m., Ar- mada High School Horse Prg. Com- mittee mtg., 7 p.m., Camp Rotary	28	29	30		